

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

Communications and Governmental Affairs

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(916) 445-4775**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Date: February 17, 2006****Contact:**Janet Huston, Director of Communications and Governmental Affairs
Department of Housing and Community Development
(916) 445-4775**The Department of Housing and Community Development Awards
\$11.3 Million in Proposition 46 Funding to Create Housing Opportunities
in the Central Valley**

(Del Rey, Fresno County) – On behalf of Business, Transportation and Housing Agency Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak, California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Acting Director Judy Nevis today announced nearly \$11.4 million in Proposition 46 funds to Central Valley communities. The awards will provide housing opportunities for more than 366 of California's hardworking families and neediest residents. Proposition 46 is the \$2.1 billion housing bond approved by voters in November 2002.

"Gov. Schwarzenegger is committed to making affordable housing a reality for all those who share the dream of homeownership," said Secretary McPeak. "Today's awards will help 366 families or individuals achieve the dream of affordable housing while supporting local economies through construction related activities and the jobs they create."

Awards were made through the following HCD programs:

- \$7.7 million in CalHome Program awards to local governments and non-profit organizations to promote homeownership opportunities for first-time homebuyers through the acquisition of new or resale homes. CalHome also provides funds to allow lower income families, including the elderly, to become homeowners or remain in their homes through the rehabilitation of their existing homes. These awards will help 233 families realize this dream.
- \$3.2 million through the CalHome Building Equity and Growth in Neighborhoods Program (BEGIN), which makes grants to cities and counties that have reduced regulatory barriers to the construction of new, affordable ownership housing. Barriers can include such constraints as minimum lot or floor area sizes that make housing more expensive. The grants are for down payment assistance loans to low- and moderate-income first-time buyers of 113 homes in BEGIN projects.
- \$400,000 through the CalHome Self-Help Technical Assistance Allocation (CHSHTAA) which awards funds for activities such as construction supervision and training, site and house plan selection, homeownership training and help with building permits and inspections for the development of 20 homes for low or very low income households using the hands-on self-help method of building their own homes.

“The awards announced today will help local communities remove regulatory barriers and increase homeownership, “ said Acting Director Nevis. “They will also provide California’s essential workforce and their families the safe and affordable housing they urgently need to live and work in their communities.”

HCD provides leadership, policies and programs to preserve and expand safe and affordable housing opportunities and promote strong communities for all Californians. The Department also supports increasing the supply of housing, especially affordable housing and works to improve the state’s housing conditions and the health and safety of its residents. As the lead housing department, HCD is part of the state Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.

For further information, please contact: jhuston@hcd.ca.gov

**CalHome Program
Total Funds Awarded in the Central Valley**

Program County	Program City	Recipient	Total Amount of Awards	Total Homes
Fresno		County of Fresno	\$500,000	10
Fresno	Huron	City of Huron	\$500,000	6
Fresno	Fresno	City of Fresno	\$750,000	90
Kern		Self-Help Enterprises	\$500,000	20
Kern	Wasco	City of Wasco	\$500,000	20
Kings	Avenal	City of Avenal	\$500,000	7
Kings		County of Kings	\$500,000	5
Merced	Atwater	City of Atwater	\$500,000	7
San Joaquin	Stockton	City of Stockton	\$500,000	10
Tulare	Tulare	City of Tulare	\$500,000	12
Tulare		County of Tulare	\$500,000	14
Tulare	Woodlake	City of Woodlake	\$500,000	7
Tulare	Farmersville	City of Farmersville	\$500,000	6
Tulare	Lindsay	City of Lindsay	\$500,000	5
Tulare	Porterville	City of Porterville	\$500,000	14

TOTAL:

\$7,750,000

233

CalHome Building Equity & Growth in Neighborhoods (BEGIN) Total Funds Awarded in the Central Valley

Project County	Project City	Project Name	Sponsor Name	Total Amount of Awards	Total Homes
Fresno	Huron	Census Tract 78	City of Huron	\$2,250,000	80
Fresno	Sanger	10th & K Housing	City of Sanger	\$990,000	33

TOTAL:	\$3,240,000	113
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**CalHome Program
Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Allocation
Total Funds Awarded**

Project County	Project City	Project Name	Sponsor - Name	Total Amount of Awards	Total Homes
Fresno	Fresno	Little Long Cheng Village Phase II and III	Self-Help Enterprises	\$400,000	20

TOTAL:	\$400,000	20
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		Total All Homes
Grand Total Awarded to the Central Valley Region	\$11,390,000	366